



THE HIGHWAY



VOLUME 2 — NO. 6

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY, 1944

Veteran Sea Gull Spends Winters at Manasquan Bridge

If you are one who believes in metempsychosis (or something) it would be easy to imagine that, in some former life, Old Pete had been a bridge-tender. In fact, there are many who are convinced that during the fifteen winters that this one-legged sea gull has made his home on the lower Manasquan River Bridge—Route 35—he has become acquainted with every phase of bridge operation.



Pete is a familiar sight to those who travel across this bridge, for throughout each winter and early spring he sits on his favorite balustrade post, apparently oblivious to the roar of passing traffic or winter gales.

Comes From North

With the regularity of clockwork Old Pete arrives from the North during the first week in October, generally a day or two preceding a storm, and just as regularly bids farewell to his friends on the bridge about the first week in April.

Just where this venerable gull spends the summer season is a matter of conjecture. Some who profess to be informed on the migratory habits of winter gulls claim that Pete's summer home is somewhere along the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, while others think that he goes farther north—above the Arctic Circle.

Signals His Return

This fall Old Pete returned to Manasquan on the first blow of a northeaster. It had just begun to cloud up and Phineas Marr, who was sharing duty with Marcellus Parker on September 30th, was wondering if their friend of fifteen winters would arrive that day.

While they were discussing this possibility, a gull fluttered close to the bridgehouse windows as if to attract attention. Several times it repeated this maneuver while Marr and Parker tried to identify it. Finally Parker said that if the bird were Old Pete it would soon settle on the familiar balustrade post. As if he had heard and understood, the gull circled into the rising wind and came to rest at the spot indicated. Old Pete had indeed come back.

Never Goes Hungry

Because he has only one leg, Pete finds it somewhat difficult to catch as much seafood as other gulls. To make up for this shortage, the men at the bridge have fed him for a good many years from their lunch boxes. When occasionally he feels that he is being slighted, Pete lets

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Oliver W. Bond

Oliver W. Bond, Highway Inspector in the Northern Construction District, died in California on January 5th while away from the Department on sick leave.

Mr. Bond, who came to the Highway in 1928 and was a veteran of three wars, was buried in Montclair with military rites. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Anita Phillips Bond, and a sister, Miss Mary L. Bond of East Orange. We extend our sympathies to these survivors upon the loss of one who was held in the highest esteem.

News of Pipe Collection Brings Interesting Letter

In the October issue of THE HIGHWAY an article appeared describing the pipe collection of Gilbert Ettenger of Fernwood. About two weeks before Christmas Mr. Ettenger received the following letter from the Circulation Manager of the *Alaska Weekly*:

"The other day I read in the paper that you were a pipe collector and I immediately thought of a grand fellow up in Petersburg, Alaska, who was one also. His name is Earl Ohmer and he is called the 'ship king of that country.'

"Not long ago a fire destroyed his dock, his office and worst of all his fine pipe collection . . .

"I was wondering how you would like to surprise him with a little package of perhaps one pipe to start his collection all over again . . . You would make a wonderful friend and when the war is over you could go to Alaska and be assured of a real welcome . . .

"You may not thank me for this suggestion, but I know what grand scouts these sourdoughs are and I'm hoping the little thought of Christmas good cheer will appeal to you.

Sincerely yours,
Lulu M. Fairbanks."

We checked up on the results produced by the above letter and know that you will be glad to hear that Mr. Ettenger sent not one pipe but two to a fellow collector in the frozen North.

Clifford Wear Named to Suggestion Committee

Clifford Wear of the Administration Division, who for the past twelve months has been serving as Department Travel Officer as well as handling Selective Service matters in connection with Highway employees, has been named as the eighth member of the Suggestion Committee. Wear's thorough knowledge of the Department's organization, gained through many years spent as secretary to Highway Engineer James Logan, should prove of value as a member of this Committee.

Merit Awards Bestowed at Christmas Party



At the Highway Christmas party held in the Board Room on Christmas Eve, Commissioner Miller presented Certificates of Merit to William Kilmurray and Joseph Caso of the Maintenance Division in recognition of their heroism in saving the life of a motorist who was in danger of burning to death as the result of an accident. Other features of the program included the singing of Christmas carols and a tribute to Highwaymen now serving in the armed forces. In the above photo Commissioner Miller is presenting Kilmurray with his certificate while Caso looks on. Many others can be identified in the gathering.

★ ★ BACK THE 4th WAR LOAN — BUY BONDS! ★ ★

Historic Year Lies Ahead

Each of Us Is Scheduled To Play Important Part

Returning Sea-Bee Prefers U. S. A.

Insects and Japs Make Life Miserable in South Pacific

"If you want to appreciate the good old U. S. A., just spend a year in the South Pacific." So says Warrant Officer John J. Timmons of the Southern Construction Division who recently returned to his native haunts after twelve months in the New Hebrides where he was engaged in road construction.



JOHN TIMMONS

Timmons, who entered the Navy in June 1942 and took his basic training at Camp Allen, Virginia, seemed more impressed by the myriads of man-eating insects than he was by Jap bombings. "You can duck the Jap bombs but you just couldn't get away from the bugs, at least in the early days following our landing. They would find us even under a sleeping net and when they did it was just too bad—for us. Eventually, through scientific control, we were able to clean up most of them, but the memory of swarms of flies will always be vivid."

Timmons also numbered among his memories, experiences with wild boars, giant lizards and large snakes. These, however, were decided of secondary importance.

Like all members of Naval Construction Battalions, Timmons took great pride in the achievements of the Sea-Bees. He told of one occasion—the occupation of Rendova Island in the Solomons—when the Sea-Bees had landed prior to the Marines. In fact they were waiting with a cheery "what's kept you guys so long?" when the devil dogs arrived.

On January 15th Warrant Officer Timmons reported to San Francisco to take on new assignments. He didn't know where his next adventure would take place, and it seemed that he didn't care, so long as the bugs were not too bad.

James A. Corby

The Highway Department lost a veteran employee with the passing of James A. Corby, Blacksmith Foreman of the Fernwood Service Station. Mr. Corby, who made his home at 1017 Genesee Street in Trenton, had been employed by the Equipment Division since March 26th, 1923, and was a member of the Ten Year Club. His death occurred on January 3 following a brief illness.

Surviving Mr. Corby are his wife, Mrs. Lulu Corby, a daughter, Mrs. James Collins, and a son, Alfred. To them THE HIGHWAY extends every sympathy, for Jim Corby will long be fondly remembered by those who were associated with him.

THE HIGHWAY

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AN EXPLANATION

Because of the method employed in computing payroll amounts, many hourly men are under the impression that the increase granted to them last January has not changed their basic hourly rate. This is definitely not the case. Today each man's basic hourly rate is officially 10% higher than it was last January, although he is carried on the payroll at the old figure for the purpose of easier computation.

Many maintenance men were getting 55 cents an hour at the time this increase was approved. Today their hourly rate is 60½ cents an hour to which a 5% bonus is added. But here is the point: this 5% bonus must be added to the old rate of 55 cents an hour. Because it is much easier to compute the payroll, which contains hundreds of names, on the original rate, plus 10% and 5%, this method is used. It is simply a matter of bookkeeping procedure and nothing more.

Another factor which entered into the decision to use this method was the difficulty many Foremen experienced in making out their time sheets. These men are not qualified auditors and many times they had trouble carrying odd ½ cent figures in such a way as to make the payroll come out satisfactory to the men. When a gang works at 60½ cents an hour for 9 hours each man makes \$5.44 ½ a day. Under these conditions some Foremen dropped the half cent while others added it, thus causing difficulty in checking the payrolls in the Trenton office.

Under the method now employed the Foreman merely puts down 9 hours at 55 cents, which equals \$4.95 and all additions are made by auditors who are qualified by experience to handle such matters. The whole procedure becomes simpler.

The point to remember, however, is that all hourly men are permanently receiving a 10% greater hourly rate than they were before January 1943 regardless of the method used in arriving at the payroll, while the 5% war adjustment bonus may not be permanent.

17 Suggestions Accepted to Date

An analysis of the suggestions received by the Suggestion Box reveals that a total of 76 ideas have been sent in to date. These ideas cover a wide variety of subjects and come from employees in every type of position.

Sixty-three of these suggestions have been reviewed by the Suggestion Committee with the following results:

17—Accepted.

27—Rejected.

19—Classified as being done at the time suggestion was received; deferred for a definite period pending further investigation; or impossible to put into effect due to war conditions.

In addition to these suggestions,

13 others have been received but have not yet been evaluated by the Committee.

Represent High Percentage

A comparison of the percentage of suggestions accepted by the State Highway Department with the percentage accepted by several long established Suggestion Boxes of large private industries reveals the fact that an enviable record is being established by Highwaymen who are participating in this progressive movement.

Twenty-seven percent of the suggestions received and evaluated at this time have been accepted as compared with an accepted percentage of 4% at the Packard Motor Company, 18.9% at Eastern Aircraft, 20% at the William Sellers Company, and 25-30% at the Marinship Corporation.

Highway Honor Roll



The following is the list of those entering the Armed Forces of the United States since the last issue of THE HIGHWAY.

Electrical

Kennard S. Coulter.....Army
Benjamin F. Newman.....Merchant Marines

Maintenance

Elwell Clugston.....Army
Dorsey L. Schaible.....Army

News from Our Men In the Service



Corporal Dudley Demerest has acquired the title of Onion King at the Third Ferrying Group, Romulus Army Airfield in Michigan. And thereby hangs a tale.

According to *Wings Over Wayne*, the publication of the Third Ferrying Group, Dudley was originally assigned to the feeding line in the mess hall. He enjoyed the work here until the men, as soldiers will, began to complain about the food.

Meanwhile, the chief cook was having trouble finding onion peels, and since they used about 100 lbs. of this vegetable each day, his problem was one of some importance.

It was at this point that Demerest stepped forward and volunteered to peel onions. His services were immediately accepted and to the chief cook's amazement Dudley sat dry-eyed day after day and peeled bushels of onions.

Soon his fame spread until he is now looked upon with wonder by those assigned to K. P. But through all this newly found fame Dudley goes quietly about his duties, modestly wearing his crown as Onion King and shedding nary a tear.

Isadore Friedman writes from Florida to say: "I don't know how it happened but after working for the Electrical Division and the Fort Monmouth Signal Laboratory, the classification experts and analysts decided to put me in fire control rangefinding. This is one of those specialized units where you don't have to worry about DV ratings."

Friedman apparently is enjoying his training for he says, "We sleep four in a room with private bathroom, hot and cold showers, soft mattresses, eat in the dining hall off china and get up at 7:00 a. m. Individual study desks, fluorescent lights, no K. P. and twenty minutes for a swim in the ocean."

HIGHWAYMEN ON ADAK



Here is a "believe it or not" from the Aleutians. It shows three Projects officers and a friend posing for their photo in the "sun." Major Frank Higgins, Captain Tom LaBar, Lieutenant Paul Davis and a friend Lieutenant Miller.

Another member of this regiment, Captain Carl Teegen of Construction, is now back from Adak and is stationed at Fort Belvoir, Virgin'a. He recently stopped off in Trenton for the holidays and at that time visited the Trenton office.

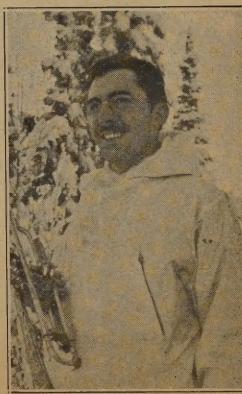
Henry K. Johnson, of Electrical, sends a letter to Major Hays from Camp Peary where he is undergoing a strenuous preliminary training with the Sea-Bees. Johnson states, "We get up at 5:00 a. m. and quit at 9:00 p. m.

"The food is very good and lots of it, but we have to lose weight. I don't know why but there must be a darned good reason.

"There are about a thousand chiefs in training here and a total of 80,000 men in camp. It covers 47 square miles and you can walk twenty minutes and get lost.

"The Marines train us and they are hard . . . they eat our hearts out. We don't blame them for most of them have been six to ten years in the service and are only 1st Class."

Johnson's address is: Henry K. Johnson, C. E. M. (A. A.) U. S. N. R. Platoon 461, Area E, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va.



BEN CORTESE, Jr.

Tech. Sgt. Ben Cortese, Jr. of Maintenance, writes from Alaska to Paymaster Clyde Case as follows: "Just received the October issue of THE HIGHWAY and want you to know how much I appreciate its contents. It is wonderful knowing and feeling that things are being taken care of so well back home."

"Our situation has improved greatly and we are very thankful for our good fortune. Both band and orchestra are doing fine and both types are very much in demand . . . we are now doing a radio show, dance and concert . . . My address is: T/S Benjamin Cortese 20238064, Band, 177th Eng. Reg. G. S. A. P. O. 942, c/o Postmaster Seattle, Wash."



RONALD CRAWFORD



JOE MURRAY

Captain Ronald Crawford of the Upper Montclair office is now in New Caledonia where the above picture was snapped. Judging from the hearty laugh, Ronald seems to be enjoying a life filled with hardships. His address, O-335040 Hq. & H. S. Co., 811 Eng. An. Bn. A. P. O. 520, San Francisco.

Joe Murray writing from Italy states that he is kept very busy and judging from his letters we believe he is. His newest elevation now makes him a Staff-Sergeant. Murray's address is Sgt. Joseph F. Murray, 12132628, 515 Bomb Sq.—376, Bomb Group, A.P.O. 681, c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

SUGGESTION BOX SCORE			
ACCEPTED	REJECTED	DEFERRED, BEING DONE, ETC.	NOT EVALUATED AS YET
17	27	?	13
MAINTENANCE 5 SURVEY & PLANS 4 BRIDGE 3 ADMINISTRATION 2 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT 6 TITLE BUREAU 1	MAINTENANCE 7 SURVEY & PLANS 3 BRIDGE 2 ADMINISTRATION 1 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT 1	MAINTENANCE 5 SURVEY & PLANS 3 BRIDGE 2 ADMINISTRATION 1 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT 1	MAINTENANCE 1 SURVEY & PLANS 1 BRIDGE 1 ADMINISTRATION 1 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT 1 TITLE BUREAU 1 PROJECTS 1

PROJECTS PARAGRAPHS

E. L. MEYER

Captain Percy Boughton visited the Projects Office November 23rd while here for the snow removal meeting.

Percy, who is one of our inspectors, is now Assistant Post Engineer at Fort Dix.

The first letter we have had from **Sgt. Joe Aiello** in quite a long time tells of a blinding two-day blizzard in the Aleutians.

With most of the hardest work already completed, conditions now remind him of home and the W.P.A. Trucks skid in the snow, get stuck, and have to be hauled out. The buildings they have so hurriedly erected are blown down by the wind and they put them up again.

Joe says they have a pet fox and they were quite surprised to see how well he blended with the snow. The fox is just about scat-size now and they are quite likely to pull the old skin game on him sometime soon.

Sidney Stern, another of our inspectors who is a Warrant Officer in the Sea-Bees, now back from the South Pacific and is taking a pretty tough course at Camp Peary, Va.

Soon after arriving at Camp Peary, Sid volunteered for a Naval Demolition group. Provided he passes all the requirements he will go to Fort Pierce, Fla., for training in diving and use of explosives.

Three of our Traveling Inspectors in North Jersey have been on the sick list. **Jerry Gaven** and **Harry Cudney** have had attacks of the flu and are now recuperating. **Gus Leida** has been assisting Cudney with his work.

Frank Reilly has been confined to his home in Phillipsburg for a few days.

We wish them all a complete and speedy recovery.

The annual office Christmas party, which is given by the Projects Engineers for the office personnel, was held at the Club Condado, December 28th. It proved to be a good party but many of the old familiar faces were sorely missed.

BRIDGE BRIEFS

Arthur Lichtenberg

Peering into our crystal ball we see **Lieut. Comm. W. F. Hunter**, on leave with the Navy in Washington, making a 45 minute bus trip from his home in Arlington to Washington and return each day. One special day he forsook the bus for the family automobile and parked the car in Polo Field, Potomac Park, where coincidentally many, many WAVES are quartered — and guarded!

At quitting time Fred, emulating the forgetful professor, took the bus home only to discover after dinner that the family car was parked 6 miles away in Washington.

Being a Sea Bee, Fred attacked the problem and when last seen was darting among the hundreds of cars under cover of darkness and successfully eluding the guards of the sleeping WAVES. With a sigh of relief and a few "damsns" he finally located the vehicle, entered, stepped on the starter and glided toward home.

Chester P. Smith has a store of interesting and colorful experiences. He recently recounted days of not too long ago in Ephrata, Washington, where the chief attraction was Johnny Erickson's saloon catering mostly to sheep raisers and cowboys. The picture includes a dirt road, wooden buildings with high parapets, wooden sidewalks and rugged preacher taking his banjo and hymns right into the saloon and winning friends. Chester smacks his lips when he thinks of those days.

Elizabeth Arline Patrick, youngest daughter of **John Patrick**, was married to John E. Jackson on December 19 at Clinton Avenue Baptist Church, Trenton. Mr. Jackson is a Seaman 1st Class with the Navy on convoy duty. Another daughter, Ethel, is a Pharmacists Mate 3rd Class stationed at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Oakland, Calif. She likes to call Mom and Pop, long distance.

Briefs: Lieut. (j.g.) **David R. Lawshe** celebrating the second an-

WORKING SO OTHERS CAN PLAY



Once each month the group of Highwaymen pictured above go to the home of Mr. Harlan Major in New York where they spend many hours reconditioning rods, reels, etc., for shipment to Servicemen in all parts of the world. Reading clockwise these men of the Equipment Division are: Fred Brooks, Robert Ettinger, Morgan Van Hise, Willard Emmons, Alfred Kaner, Charles Hart and Frank Devereux.

This drive for unused fishing tackle has been enlarged recently to include rods and reels which may now be shipped through permission of the government. All equipment turned in is sent to locations where there is a recreational officer in charge. If you have any fishing tackle you are not using, send it to Frank Devereux at Fernwood. He'll see that it reaches its destination.

versary of the Sea Bees December 28th by visiting the office on his "embarkation leave" . . . **Curtis D. Weller** finished with work on Fort Dix Access Road and on office assignment . . . Our best wishes to **Harry J. Mueller** who has not been well for several months . . . J. J. Sheean, Bridge Construction Inspector, working hard and long at the Eastern Aircraft plant in Trenton . . . Last mail from **Lieut. Virgil E. Williams** places him on the high seas in the middle of a well protected convoy, and while the business at hand includes attention to harvesting enemy mine fields, fighting off enemy submarines, etc., his thoughts slip back to Bridge Division Annals and the charm of pulchritudinous evenings. Perfectly normal, Virgil . . . **George Peef** weighing several proposals for a job in war work . . . **R. B. Titworth** willing to wager that the Allies will be entrenched in Denmark by mid-February . . . One of the five accepted suggestions mentioned by Commissioner Spencer Miller at the Christmas meeting came from the Bridge Division. **Geo. A. Hefferman**'s idea for a centralized Departmental Library has been put into modified effect and soon all will have details of its method of functioning . . . The "Flu" germ or one akin thereto has caused illness to **Petersen, Fox, Burch, Lusdy, Simon, Stetzer, Dileo, Patrick, Titworth, Hefferman, Spencer and Umberger** during the last month. All have made quick recovery. Those untouched at this writing include **Hedin, Smith, Furry, Lefferson, Wilson, Goodkind and Mrs. A. Kanyuh**. Rugged souls, I call them.

The recent cold weather has brought out a number of sweater wearing brothers, with **Simon, Spencer, Lusdy, Hedin and Burch** displaying. Photographs are not available as pin-ups for WAACs or WAVES.

Pass the Aspirin

When the Air Raid Wardens of New Jersey conducted their recent statewide drive for old clothes, Austin Dey of Fernwood was on hand to do his share. In fact, Austin's enthusiasm for the job produced some rather unusual results.

You will recall that on this occasion old clothes were tied in bundles and placed on many front porches for collection. This is also a custom often followed in the collection of laundry. It was this unusual parallel that led to Dey's discomfort, for being on the job ahead of the laundry man, Austin collected all bundles without questioning their content.

The mistake was not discovered until it was time for several laundry bundles to be returned, and then things began to happen fast. At this writing the situation has not been completely straightened out and Dey is firmly convinced that the diligent performance of duty often leads to a very large headache.

EQUIPMENT ITEMS

James O'Rourke

Charlie Zwiegle, for more than twenty years a chauffeur at Fernwood and for much of that time the driver of former State Highway Engineers, has been the unfortunate victim of a prolonged illness. About two months ago Charlie's sick leave ran out and in conformity with the law it was necessary to drop him from the payroll. His former associates remembered Zwiegle's predicament at Xmas with a collection which amounted to one hundred dollars . . . a nice way to say Merry Christmas to a fellow who is up against it.

Marco Nero, our able Fireman, reports the birth of a son on November 30th . . . Adam Mather, Equipment Operator, celebrated a similar occurrence on November 19th, and not to be outdone by these two, Joe Veenstra announced the arrival of a son on November 20th. Congratulations to all three.

The flu epidemic brought havoc with Fernwood group with as many as 25 being laid up at one time. We are glad to report, however, that the many victims seem to constitute a tough bunch and are now back at work again.

John Megules, who recently received a medical discharge from the army, has resigned from the Department and is planning upon making his future home in Iowa. Johnnie recently married the army nurse who attended him while in a Chicago hospital. He takes with him the best wishes of all who knew him.

A group of the Fernwood boys held their annual Christmas party as in other years. The funds provided were such that it was possible to remember two of their fellow-members who are less fortunate this year. **Leon Anton**, who is recuperating from a prolonged illness at the Trenton Municipal Colony, was the recipient of a large basket of fruit, while a substantial addition of twenty dollars was added to the hundred dollar gift which was made to **Charlie Zwiegle**.

Joe Battista, Fernwood Mechanic, is slowly recovering at his home from a badly sprained back suffered while working.

Arlington Stimson left the Ten Year Club dinner in high spirits, the recipient of a twenty-year pin. Scarcely twenty minutes later, Stimson and his wife were being rushed to the hospital, the victims of a collision in which their car was demolished. Although both were painfully bruised, neither was seriously injured and Arlington is now back at work.

CONSTRUCTION COMMENTS

Fred C. Claus

Upper Montclair

The Engineering Association of the N. J. State Highway Department held its 2nd annual dinner and election of officers at the Robin Hood Inn in Clifton on Friday, Dec. 17th. **Mr. Eugene V. Connell**, the principal speaker of the evening, was introduced by **Robert G. Blanchard** of Trenton, the former president of the Association. Mr. Connell urged greater cooperation and good fellowship between employees and officials of the Department.

Morris Levy of Irvington and **Adrian C. Lincoln** of Montclair were elected president and 1st vice president respectively. The remaining officers are: **Herbert Conner** of Newark, 2nd vice president; **George Mendez** of East Orange, recording secretary; **Lawrence Kavanagh** of Teaneck, corresponding secretary; **Ralph Perry** of Irvington, treasurer.

The executive committee will consist of: **John V. Lincoln**, Genaro Canduso; **John Matchett**, D. M. Loprete and **John Simmons**.

Harry Fowler and **Tom Frascella** are at present taking a course in "Time Study" as applied to industrial engineering. This course is being sponsored by the Federal Government under the auspices of Princeton University.

The best wishes of the office are extended to **Mrs. Cyril Wimpenny** for a speedy and complete recovery. Mrs. Wimpenny has been ill for some time necessitating the attendance of her husband at her bedside.

Newark

John J. MacKenzie, who recently retired, has bought a home in Florida, and is taking life easy at 3646 Dartmouth Ave. North, St. Petersburg.

Lieutenant Charles M. Stenson is somewhere in INDIA, according to his last letter! He states that there is a great possibility for engineering work in that country after the war. Mail should be addressed—A. P. O. 7137 c/o Postmaster, N. Y. C.

Mr. George Derrick, who retired some time ago, has written us and sends his greetings to all the boys. He misses his old highway acquaintances, so let us who had the pleasure of knowing him, drop him a line. His address is 304 Marian, Virginia.

LAND AND LEGAL

Ed Drake



Pictured above are **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Turner** standing at the Fountain of Youth while on their way to St. Petersburg, Florida. Charlie, who was recently retired on a disability pension, writes that he is feeling fine and wishes to be remembered to all of his former associates and friends in the Department.

Pleasantville

Three men from this office are now serving in the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve (Temporary); **C. M. Somers**, Flotilla No. 11, Atlantic City; **Edgar Y. Corson** and **Frank Cagnano**, Flotilla No. 31, Ocean City. These men are serving 12 hours per week on lookout tower duty.

Romeo A. Falciani has recently been promoted to Lieutenant, J. G., and is stationed at U. S. Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

Sgt. J. Arthur Best of the 48th Fighter Squadron is stationed at Thomasville, Georgia.

Karl T. Collins, C. M. 2/c of the "Sea Bees" at last reports was stationed on the West Coast awaiting overseas duty. Meanwhile, he has been passing the time in damping with Rita Hayworth, Betty Grable, Alice Faye and Veronica Lake (so he says).

Trenton

Johnny Madden has been dazzling the drawing room since Christmas with a diamond ring, upwards of a carat in size, the gift of the little lady. Some husbands get different kinds of rocks tossed at them.

From down under, in Australia, **Frank Armstrong**—now a mate aboard an army transport—writes that he has had many pleasant trips ashore, replete with visits to art galleries and museums. Knowing "Army," this comes as no surprise—and we can guess the type of pictures he finds interesting.

Sympathies are extended to **Paul Steen**, one of the best liked and best known members of the Trenton office, upon the unexpected death of his mother. Mrs. Steen accompanied by her husband had gone to Florida for the winter, as had been their custom for many years, and it was while there that she passed away.

News Shorts—Glad to report that **Adrian C. Lincoln** is recuperating following an attack of flu. Judging from reports, Adrian had it bad . . . As in former years **Ann Manion** and your columnist congratulated each other on December 6th, our birthdays.

Harry Belkin and wife (Tillie B. of Mr. Hurley's office) celebrated their 14th wedding anniversary in New York. Congratulations. Other vacationists included **Sylvia Lefkowitz** (New York), **Ann Manion**, ditto . . . **Herman Kramer**, working, and **John Walklett**, at home.

Morris Balbresky is showing great enthusiasm for the Police Reserve movement in Trenton. Not only is Morris the secretary of the organization but he is also doing a commendable job in editing their monthly publication the Police Reservist. More recently Morris was named to a committee of three, by Mayor Duch, to study police reserve activities in other cities.

MAINTENANCE NOTES

GENE BECKNER

The Holiday Season was the occasion for the receipt of numerous letters and greetings from many of our fellow employees now in the armed services overseas. John T. Carr, Jr. writes from the South Pacific relating that enemy bombing sorties in his immediate sector are relaxing somewhat and that he expects a much deserved rest. (Not back to the States, however.) George McCann and Charlie McGinnis send greetings from Iran and the Aleutians respectively. In a letter addressed to him recently, some unkind gentleman relegated George to a "Private, F/C." Let it be known that George was long ago commissioned a First Lieutenant. Mac's greeting from Alaska way was a masterpiece—the Aurora Borealis, so to speak. Jules Megules writes from Burma??? and evidently intended telling us something for his letter was so full of censored holes that it looked like a sieve. It's grand to hear from all of the fellows and we are especially glad to report that all of them are apparently in good health.

Recent visitors to the Trenton Office were Master Sgt. (Pop) Horner and Charlie Doherty. Norm is still stationed at Camp Butner driving herd on "Eyetic" prisoners. "Doc" has completed his training course and is now stationed at the Sedalia Army Air Field at Wartensburg, Mo. with the 61st Troop Carrier Wing.

Diogenes, we have your man—or rather men! One day late in December of last year word came to us that Barney Higgins had found a bank passbook, with a substantial sum of money inside, along the highway near Bordentown. Barney, with typical honesty, took the book with the money intact to the nearest roadside restaurant, anticipating that the owner would be back in search of it. Sure enough, when Barney called back at the restaurant the next day the owner had returned and secured the money and passbook and had left Barney a nice reward. On that same day, purely by coincidence, the office was in receipt of a letter from another party thanking Foreman Augie Newman for returning his wallet which had been found along the roadside by Newman and returned by him to the address indicated inside.

Sunday, January 9th, was a red-letter day for Miss Ella Moore. On that day her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George N. Moore, who reside at 8 Morris Circle, Trenton, celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary. Not many wedded couples have the joy and privilege of such an occasion, and we are glad to add our congratulations to the many others which Mr. and Mrs. Moore received on that day.

Old Man Flu and La Grippe played havoc with maintenance forces during the latter half of December, and doctors' certificates in support of claims for sick allowance just about deluged the Trenton Office. Fortunately, most of the cases were of a mild variety and most of the victims are now back at work. One of the victims was Peter Ayres, the one-man maintenance gang on Route No. 31 up around Harlingen. As may be surmised, Pete's incapacitation put that gang out of commission.

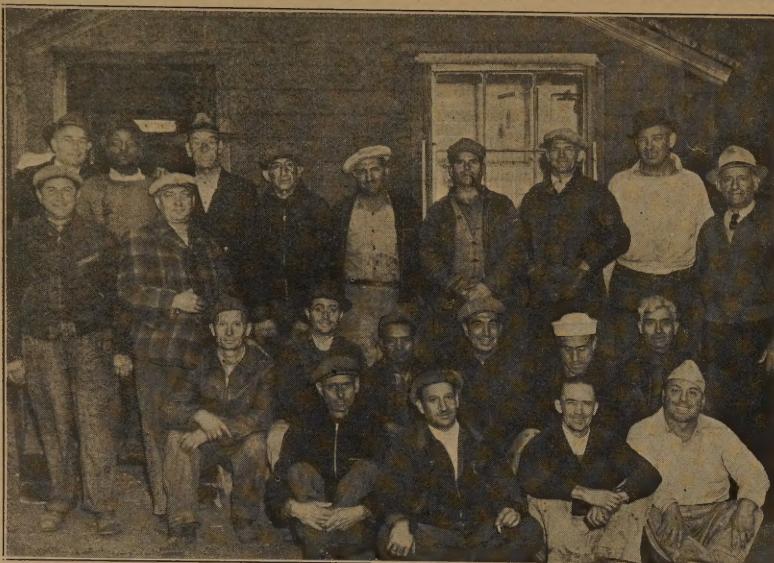
Irving Post, member of Foreman Jack Taylor's maintenance crew was operated on early in January and is now hospitalized at Mercer Hospital, Trenton. Last reports indicate that he is progressing nicely.

Jack Stanley has finally learned of the definite whereabouts of his older son, Bill. Bill, who is now a Lieutenant in an anti-aircraft unit, is stationed on the Galapagos Islands about 750 miles off the coast of Ecuador just south of the equator. Bill's younger brother, Jack, Jr. is in the U. S. Navy and is now located at New London, Connecticut.

Tony Kuhn's son, Bill, recently completed his basic training in the U. S. Navy at Bainbridge, Maryland, and promptly volunteered for PT Boat Service. He is now stationed at Melville, R. I. attached to a Motor Torpedo Boat Unit.

Dick Geller, son of Russ Geller, ran into bit of tough luck while undergoing pre-flight training as a Naval Air Cadet up at Colgate University. Dick strained his side while performing some of the

MEET THE GANG



Foreman Ben Cortese is one man who decided not to wait until THE HIGHWAY photographers got around to taking a picture of his gang, so Ben had the picture taken and forwarded a print to us for publication. It was taken outside their headquarters at the intersection of Route 6 and Route 17 in Bensenville.

From this point the Cortese crew maintains Route 6 from East Paterson to Grand Avenue, Ridgefield Park, Route 17 from North Arlington to the Paramus cloverleaf; Route 7 from Kearny to Nutley, and Route S-3 at Allwood.

In posing for their picture, the group lined up as follows: front row from left to right, Peter Simonse, Joseph Lupino, John Grownay, and John Poli. Second row (seated) Richard Platell, Louis Favocci, Ellis Ross, Leo Stefanacci, Peter De Vito and Rocco Vistella. The two men standing at the left are Joseph Zolla and Gustave Vandenne. The rear row from the left are John Bollschruter, Sam Dame, John Daly, Julius Limsky, Mario Timpano, Salvatore Napolitano, Max Hartig, William Garrison and Cortese.

Two of the above group have already seen service in this war and only recently returned to maintenance work with the Highway Department. These men are Garrison and Stefanacci who were with the army in Alaska. Five others are still serving their country in various parts of the world. They are Benjamin Cortese, Jr., Tech. Sergeant with the 177th Engineers, Edward Cole, Victor Borzone, Michael Miltello and Tony Calise.

Gustave Vandenne and Joseph Zolla are the Assistant Foremen of this gang while the truck drivers are John Bollschruter and John Grownay. The grader operator is Max Hartig. Foreman Cortese didn't send any personal notes about the men.

tough gymnastics required and developed a hernia. He is now at St. Albans Hospital, New York City, convalescing from a corrective operation. We were pleased to read in the newspaper recently that Dick, who was forced to leave his studies at Rutgers University to enter the armed forces just before graduating, had been granted his degree in absentia.

Florence King recently entertained Margaret Hennessy and Mary Chamberlin (nee Craig) of the Newark Office, and Cora Cameron, formerly of the Project Division Office. According to Florence, following tea?? at her apartment on West Front Street, dinner was enjoyed at Weinmann's Grill.

Added War Casualty—During the recent coal shortage guess whom we found totting 50 pound bags of coal home in the rear of his car. None other than Gerry Cahill—his first really laborious effort in many a moon. Gerry says the first five steps were a cinch, but after that, oh my!!

A recent addition to the Maintenance Office Force is M. Leroy Bensel (M. for business). Roy, a Project Inspector who worked for this Division way back when the Highway Offices were located in the Hotel Windsor, has been temporarily loaned to this Division by Projects to assist in the work formerly handled by Jimmy Walter, who is still at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. According to the fellows who knew Roy when he formerly worked for this Division, the years have done nothing to dampen his irrepressible spirits. Latest report from Jimmy Walter, by the way, is that he has lost about 140 pounds and is feeling fine. He is still troubled by his injured knee, but expects that to come around.

Marvin R. James of Long Branch and Samuel Santaniello of Neptune, representing the Central Jersey Maintenance Employees, met with the joint Legislative Commission on State Personnel for the purpose of presenting their views on personnel matters.

Administration Division

ARTHUR EGAN

We received an interesting letter from Frank Ricketti who was wounded at Salerno. Frank is now at Rhode Island Hospital, Utica, New York. He writes the excellent treatment being received may make it possible for him to walk again by February. Frankie is looking forward to rejoining his old outfit for, as he says, he has several scores to settle this time.

There were many gatherings this year to celebrate the holidays and to exchange wishes of good cheer. Frank Daley's Terrace Room, Newark, was the scene of a dinner dance attended by the following members of the Department: Mary Sheridan, Elsie Taylor, Ruth Barbour, Helen Tallon, J. B. Majeski, Gene Anderson, Marion O'Hara, Charles Engennach, John Houman, Frank Matzer and Steve Madus.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lee Grover were host to members of Mr. Grover's Staff and friends at a Xmas Luncheon held in the Stacy Trent Hotel. In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Grover the party consisted of Mr. C. F. Bedwell, Mr. Frank C. Young, Kenneth Rice, Gene Palmer, Clifford Wear, Martha Scales, Leah Jaekel, Elsie Taylor, Mary Sheridan, Mary Rector, Marion O'Hara, Margaret Anderson and Charles Engennach.

Members of Mr. Howell's office enjoyed a Christmas gathering at McCullough's, Trenton. Those attending were Harold Rice, Harold Palmer, Harold Jemison, Cyrus Card, Frank Allen, Dave Rodman and George Dederick.

McCullough's was also the place for the members of Mr. Hurley's Cost Department Staff for their annual holiday get-together. Those present included: Evelyn Maley, Helen Disbrow, Gladys Bricklow, Mildred Friedman, Tillie Beilinson, Ann Ludwig, Marilyn Siddle, Claire Lacozi,

Ten Year Club Names Committees For Coming Year

To Step Up Activities of Organization

The selection of members of all committees of the Ten Year Club has been completed, according to President Wilbur H. Spencer. The new committee members include many who are appearing in this role for the first time.

The complete list of all committees follows:

Entertainment

R. G. Martin, Chairman (E); Harold Palmer (A), J. Madden (C), R. E. Simon (B), J. R. Hunt (EL), W. J. Ryan (L), Earl Storer (M), R. MacMullin (P), Velt Sams (RE).

Nominating

Paul F. Crammer, Chairman (A); P. H. Burch (B), Harry Fowler (C), Ray Tantum (E), J. H. Carpenter (L), A. Kuhn (M), George Cubberly (P), John Watt (RE), R. Callahan (EL).

Highlights

W. E. Beckner, Chairman (M); M. Ludsay (B), J. Kersey (C), Clarence Scales (E), J. R. Hunt (EL), C. E. Kucker (L), H. Jemison (A), Wm. Wharton, Jr. (P), Wm. Kirk (RE).

Membership and Dues

Arthur Egan, Chairman (C); Frank Skillman (RE), Harry Leferson (B), J. T. Deter (EL), F. L. Gerard (C), N. McDonagh (C), J. A. Carpenter (L), Tony Kuhn (M), R. MacMullin (P), Henry Johnson (A), S. E. Bullock (C), H. Marvin (C), Owen Rogers (A), E. Knorr (E), K. Rice (A), Ed. McCardell (A), J. Evans (C), F. Claus (C).

Constitution and By-Laws

W. B. Haney, Chairman (RE); Frank Devereux (E), Chas. Farnley (M), Chas. Hunt (P), Leroy Vogts (L), C. Hurley (A), Harry Leferson (B), S. E. Bullock (C).

Investigating

H. R. Hill, Chairman (A); Clyde Case (A), Harold Rice (A).

Budget

Wilbur Spencer (B), Richard Snyder (M), A. Egan (M), C. Case (A).

Publicity

F. Reddan, Chairman (A); A. J. Lichtenberg (B), C. Wear (A), F. Harris (P).

Hospitality

C. W. Case (A).

Service Awards

W. C. Davis, Chairman (A); W. M. Dix (M), Cyrus Card (A), H. N. Kramer (RE), Chris Kucker (L), E. Palmer (A).

Historian

Paul G. Sefrin (C).

Welfare

A. J. Lichtenberg, Chairman (B); Cyrus Card (A), T. Stephan (C), R. G. Martin (B), J. R. Hunt (EL), J. M. McDonagh (L), C. S. Farnley (M), C. F. Hunt (P), C. I. Levine (M)..

Plans are now under way to step up the current year's activities of the Ten Year Club and the proposed program will include a spring dinner and the resumption of the annual outing.

The spring dinner will take the form of an Amateur Night and is scheduled for Monday, April 17th at a place to be selected later.

The following men were voted into the Ten Year Club but unfortunately their names were not included among those published in our last issue: Frank E. Card, James A. Dubell, Sr., Kenneth C. Ely, Clarence F. Fogg, Joseph Garritt, Michael Loprete, David Pettigrew, Lawrence Zazzo, Leo Jambre and Harold J. Lange.

Veteran Sea Gull Spends Winters at Manasquan

(Continued from Page 1) his benefactors know by swooping on them like a dive bomber, and then, as they duck, he gracefully zooms skyward.

Whenever he resorts to these tactics he is never disappointed, for there is always a generous hand to dip into a lunch box and extract some delicacy of which past experience has shown the gull to be particularly fond.

In the above photo Phineas Marr is shown feeding Pete, although it might just as well have been Thomas F. Farr, Ed. Broderick, Marcellus Parker, Charles Kisselman, Joseph Powell or Herman Grasing, for each of these men look upon Pete as an old friend and hate to think of the inevitable day in some future October when he won't put in his customary appearance.

A Request

In the 18 months since he joined the Highway Department, Mr. E. V. Connell has gone out of his way to adjust all sorts of personnel problems and in so doing he has maintained an "open door" policy which has met with the approval of all.

Recently, however, there has been a tendency to call Mr. Connell at his home for the purpose of discussing business matters and this practice has resulted in quite some inconvenience. In fact, on several occasions he was forced to leave his evening meal or spend a considerable part of his week-end to converse with some employee on matters which should properly be talked over during business hours.

Because of this, Mr. Connell requests that all calls, either for appointments or dealing with business matters, be made to his office. The number is Trenton 2-2131, extension 587.